

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An authentication server for automatically selecting one of a plurality of authentications identified respectively by authentication identifiers (AUID) in order to authenticate a user of a terminal (T) in order to authorize thesaid user to access a service dispensed by a service server (SE) of a provider identified by a provider identifier (PRID) via a communication network (RC), ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ the server comprising:

~~means a selector arrangement (MSA) for selecting an authentication identifier (AUID) in a memory (TA1 to TA6) as a function of thesaid provider identifier (PRID) and the type of at least one of thesaid terminal and/or the type of thesaid communication network, and means (MA) an authentication arrangement for authenticating thesaid user by means of using an authentication process associated with thesaid authentication identifier (AUID).~~

2. (Currently amended) An authentication server according to claim 1, wherein thesaid selecting means (MSA) selects (E4) theselector arrangement is arranged to select said authentication identifier (AUID) as a function of an authentication security level (NAU) in corresponding relationship to thesaid provider identifier (PRID).

3. (Currently amended) An authentication server according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said selecting means (MSA) selects theselector arrangement is arranged to select said authentication identifier (AUID) as a function of authentication rules (RE) associated with thesaid provider identifier (PRID) and applied to at least an authentication security level (NAU) corresponding to at least one of thesaid provider identifier (PRID) and/or to thesaid terminal type and/or to thesaid communication network type.

4. (Currently amended) An authentication server according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said service server (SE) comprises means (API) a transmitter for

transmitting (E2) ~~at least the~~said provider identifier (PRID) ~~and the~~at least one of said terminal type and/or the~~said~~ communication network type to the~~said~~ selecting means (MSA) ~~selector arrangement~~ in response to a connection set up between the~~said~~ user terminal (T) and the~~said~~ service server (SE).

5. (Currently amended) An authentication server according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the~~said~~ selecting means (MSA) ~~transmits selector arrangement~~ is arranged to transmit to the~~said~~ terminal (F2) a list (~~{SID}~~) of services identified by service identifiers (SID) in response to a connection set up between the~~said~~ user terminal (T) and the~~said~~ selecting means (MSA) ~~selector arrangement~~, and the~~said~~ user terminal is arranged to transmit ~~transmits~~ (F3) to the~~said~~ selector arrangement ~~selection means~~ a service identifier (SID) of a service selected by the~~said~~ user in the transmitted list in order for the~~said~~ selector or arrangement selecting means to select the~~said~~ authentication identifier (AUID) as a function also of the~~said~~ selected service identifier (SID).

6. (Currently amended) An authentication server according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein the~~said~~ selector arrangement is arranged to transmit ~~selecting means~~ (MSA) ~~transmits~~ to the~~said~~ terminal (F2) a list (~~{PRID}~~) of provider identifiers (PRID) in response to a connection set up between the~~said~~ user terminal (T) and the~~said~~ selector arrangement ~~selecting means~~ (MSA), and the~~said~~ terminal is arranged to transmit ~~transmits~~ (F3) to the~~said~~ selecting means ~~selector arrangement~~ a provider identifier (PRID) selected by the~~said~~ user in the transmitted list in order for the~~said~~ selector arrangement selecting means to select the~~said~~ authentication identifier (AUID) as a function in ~~particular~~ of the~~said~~ selected provider identifier (PRID).

7. (Currently amended) An authentication server according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein, if the~~said~~ user has been authenticated, the authenticator arrangement is arranged to transmit authentication means (MSA) ~~transmits~~ (E13, F16) to the~~said~~ service server (SE) ~~the~~said~~ terminal type, the~~said~~ communication network type, the~~said~~ transmitted service identifier (SID), and a security level (NAU) of the authentication designated by the~~said~~ selected authentication identifier (AUID).~~

8. (Currently amended) An authentication server according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6,~~ characterized in that it comprises ~~further comprising~~ two separate servers respectively including thesaid selector arrangement selecting means (MSA) and thesaid authenticator arrangement authenticating means (MA).

9. (Currently amended) A method ~~for~~ of automatically selecting one of a plurality of authentications identified respectively by authentication identifiers (AUID) ~~in order to authenticate a user of a terminal (T) to authorize thesaid user to access a service dispensed by a service server (SE) of a provider identified by a provider identifier (PRID) via a communication network (RC),~~ characterized in that it comprises the steps of the method comprising:

- selecting an authentication identifier (AUID) in a memory (TA1 to TA6) as a function of thesaid provider identifier (PRID) and the type of at least one of thesaid terminal and/or the type of thesaid communication network, and

- authenticating thesaid user by an authentication process associated with thesaid authentication identifier (AUID).

10. (Currently amended) A computer program on an information medium; adapted to be loaded into and executed ~~in by~~ an authentication server (SA) ~~for automatically selecting one of a plurality of authentications respectively identified by authentication identifiers (AUID) in order to authenticate a user of a terminal (T) in order to authorize thesaid user to access a service dispensed by a service server (SE) of a provider identified by a provider identifier (PRID) via a communication network (RC),~~ said program including program instructions for:

- selecting an authentication identifier (AUID) in a memory (TA1 to TA6) as a function of thesaid provider identifier (PRID) and the type of at least one of thesaid terminal and/or the type of thesaid communication network, and

- authenticating thesaid user by an authentication process associated with thesaid authentication identifier (AUID).

11. (New) A data processor arrangement for performing the method of claim 9.